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College teachers

The important role played by government colleges in the education system of the country, marks them out as deserving a high degree of attention. The turn-outs from the SSC level are huge and with the intake at the technical institutes being still deplorably low, it is the colleges which are to accommodate the new breeds seeking to study further. And they fall in scrambles to enter the government colleges by contrast to the private ones in the hope for better education, with an imaginable pressure being put on the former.

Most of the colleges also run university-level courses tending to substitute for the highest seats of learning except in the fields of specialisation. Thus, both in terms of catering to the quantity and quality of education, the government colleges are billed to do a precious lot. Moreover, the process of conversion of private colleges into government ones makes it pertinent for the former to accept the vanguard role of the latter in order to do the necessary catching up for qualifying the upgradation. Actually it is the colleges on which our dependence will grow, rather critically, to meet the country's requirement of educated people.

Given this backdrop, the government colleges could hardly brook any dearth of teachers, let alone the presence of many unhappy ones who had tales to tell about their job misfortunes. The government has already absorbed adhoc appointees from among college teachers giving them antedated seniority. The cumulative needs for introducing a promotional mobility in the service structure and augmenting staff strength from the bottom were also recognised in the interest of overcoming the dismal state of college education.

Following up on the decisions, the Education Ministry has ordered a series of promotions among the college teachers with the result that 300 posts of lecturers have fallen vacant. While a new avenue has been opened for qualified men and women to be employed at the bottom level, those promoted to higher status and salary as Associate Professors, Professors and Principals could now feel rewarded—and enthused to deliver the goods expected of them.

The academic atmosphere in the educational institutions leaves room for improvement, to put it mildly. An attitude of resignation to the urgent need for improving matters pertaining to educational environment will be suicidal for the society. The teachers ought to be the natural guides of the students by virtue of their erudition, force of character and personal conduct.